

that lived in the interior of the Island of Oahu, some hundred or hundred and fifty years since, I will communicate them, hoping thereby to induce some other one to search more carefully for the whole story.

Halemanu, eight or ten miles east of Wai-alea is the place where Kalo Aikanaka, a cannibal chief, once lived. This little spot nearly resembles an ox-bow in shape, and lies between two deep ravines; the only access to it from the sea being through a narrow isthmus of only a few yards in width. On this little ox-bow of one or two hundred acres is the site of a heathen temple, of oblong shape, about 200 feet by 60, sufficiently large to seat 3500 people in the native way, and leave a small space unoccupied.

Near this is the site of a house said to have been occupied by the chief;—dimensions 60 feet by 40. Between the house and the temple, a little to the west is a large excavation in the earth, sufficient to admit an ox to be roasted whole; this is pointed out as the oven in which men were formerly roasted for the feasts of the chief.

Still further to the west, and distant from the temple about 12 or 15 rods is a large flat stone, with a smooth surface, nearly an octagonal shape six feet perhaps in diameter, and of one or two tons weight. On this stone it is said the roasted victims of this cannibal chief were dissected and eaten. The stone goes by the name of Kalo's *ipu kai* or meat platter. Natives say that pieces of this stone broken off and exposed to the action of fire, have frequently developed an oily substance which they suppose arises from its having been saturated with the fat of victims. The experiment however, which we made, did not satisfy us that such would be likely to take place at this late period.

Kalo is reported as having been a chief over about three thousand people, all of whom lived within a few miles of the heiau or temple,—where he was accustomed occasionally to feast on the dead body of some enemy, intruder, or stranger who might be despatched for the occasion.

Kaanokeewe, his servant or under chief lived at a place called Kanewai; where there is very narrow pass between two ravines, and very abrupt on both sides. On this neck of land Kaanokeewe built his house, reaching from bank to bank; so that all who might go to the mountains for timber in that direction must go through his house; travelers also from the north side of the Island frequently passed that way.

All of these he was in the habit of questioning as to the object of their several journeys; and if by any artifice he could implicate them in deception real or fancied he regarded them as lawful prey, took their lives, and carried them with haste to Kalo to be devoured.

Kaanokeewe is reported as having been very athletic; ready to give battle to any man, and sure to conquer in single combat. So that the victims procured by him for his master were numerous. Natives say, many forties in number. Kaanokeewe destroyed all his own brethren and those of his wife, except one, who escaped him and went to Kauai. On Kauai he learned the art of managing a contest in single combat, and with his newly acquired skill returned to Oahu. No sooner had he arrived than he heard that his sister, Kaholekua, wife of Kaanokeewe had been killed by her husband. On this intelligence he made haste to the spot, found his sister not dead but severely injured. He then attacked Kaanokeewe with all his skill, and in the encounter both of them went off the precipice together; and in the fall Kaanokeewe's head was caught between two trees, and grappled as he was with his antagonist, his neck was broken short off. With the death of this procurer of victims, the cannibalism of the chief Kalo ended, as he had no one to procure him victims. From that time this horrid custom ceased.

Previous to the time of Kalo, it is said that a company of cannibals reached Oahu by the way of Kauai, who were strangers, which had arrived at Kauai from some foreign land. The name of one was Kahanu-nui-a-lewa-lani; his younger brother was named Kaweloakanaka; they were children of Neva. They were all cannibals, and did much mischief for a time among the people.

From the story of Kalo I am impressed with a few facts.

The diminution of the population. The great temple 200 feet by 60 is said to have been filled with people who lived near. There are now but about forty or fifty people living within four or five miles of the site.

Cannibalism was not common among the people of the Sandwich Islands. Kalo is said to have been feared and detested, with all his company for their eating human flesh.

The size of the heathen temples and the multitudes that thronged them, induced by no motives but fear, are a sad comment on the comfort and happiness said to be enjoyed by idolatrous heathen, when we recollect that all the hopes the people had from either priest or idol was merely exemption from a violent death, from famine or from disease, inflicted upon them for some crime committed ignorantly.

It is said that in the exercise which they called prayer, every person was required, on penalty of death, to keep one position, from the beginning to the end of the exercise.

In going into a heathen temple, witnessing the stillness of the assembly, and the solemn awe that pervades the place, one would be almost led to conclude that "Ignorance is the mother of devotion." But when he might see the bloody knife, or the devoted human victim, and learn that neither reverence, love, faith, nor hope were to be found there, nothing but fear and dread of what may be, he would retract—and conclude that such devotion, as idolatry inspires, contains within itself an awful curse, that claims the commiseration of every philanthropist. Yours, respectfully,

J. S. EMERSON.

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, DEC. 5, 1840.

The Exploring Squadron has now left our harbor to cruise in various directions. The Porpoise has sailed (so it is said) for the southern groups, to return here in four months. The Peacock and Flying Fish to Ascension, King's Mill Group and the Caroline Archipelago, thence to the Columbia River, in spring, when a store-ship will sail from here for that place, with all necessary supplies, which will probably obviate the necessity of their returning here. The Vincennes has gone to Hawaii, for the purpose of making a thorough survey of the volcano, and Mauna Loa, and all the interesting points in that vicinity. She will also go to the Columbia in a few months. Much has been done during the stay of the Squadron, and we have not a doubt but that the history of the Expedition will give the most faithful account of the Islands, which has ever appeared, particularly in all departments of science. The artists, too, have been busy, and have taken many views of scenery, costumes, and the portraits of chiefs and common people. The salt lake at Ewa, which has heretofore been supposed to be connected with the sea, and affected by tides, and the salt the product of evaporation, has been ascertained to be of mineral formation, and disconnected with the ocean. Salt is found 180 feet above the surface of the lake. Its depth, which was considered fathomless, (and rightly so,) proved to be sixteen inches. The harbor at Ewa, or Pearl River, was surveyed, and found commodious for shipping, with a good entrance between the reefs, with twenty-three feet of water upon the bar. Honolulu harbor and adjacent reefs were also thoroughly surveyed. Astronomical, meteorological, and magnetic observations and experiments have been daily and nightly made at the observatory, with all the instruments, with which the Expedition is most liberally provided. The pendulum for determining the figure of the earth, is the first that has ever been carried on a voyage of this nature, and promises the most interesting results. In many other respects the stay of the Squadron has been most beneficial to the islands. Business has revived, and much

money distributed among the natives. The impression created on the minds of the chiefs by the deportment of the officers, is of the most favorable nature, and will add much to the already high reputation gained by American officers for their government and country. It is needless to speak of the unmingled satisfaction and pleasure which the visit has produced among the residents. The sorrow manifested at their departure is the best evidence of this. May their future labors be as successful as their past, and as honorable to themselves and their country.

By the Joseph Peabody, Capt. Dominis, we have received a few newspapers from the United States, of which the latest date is Sept. 8th. We glean the following items from them.

The Sub-treasury bill passed the House of Representatives on June 30. Yeas, 134. Nays, 107. Mr. Poinsett is appointed Secretary of the Navy, and Mr. Benton takes his place as Secretary of War. The elections appear to be going favorably for Gen. Harrison, and his friends are confident of his election.

The Lama sailed from Boston, Aug. 9, for this place. The Ship Morea, Capt. Snow, was to leave New York for these Islands, in all October.

The practice of running horses furiously through the streets, has become so frequent of late, as to endanger the safety of pedestrians, and the attention of the Governor should be drawn to this evil. Several persons have been knocked down and rode over in the most careless manner, endangering not only their limbs but their lives. It is a matter of astonishment that more have not been injured, considering the numbers who ride on horseback, and the almost total disregard shown to the safety of those on foot. This dangerous habit is not confined to the natives, but is quite too common with those who should know better. We hope that all those who have any regard for the lives of others, and their own reputation, will hereafter ride in a more prudent manner, and not disgrace themselves by any more such exhibitions of horsemanship, which however pleasing they may be to the riders, are not particularly gratifying to those who may be within range of the horse's heels.

The question is frequently asked whether England claims any authority over, or extends her protection to these Islands? The following extract from the minutes of proceedings in the House of Lords, in March last, settles the point.

In answer to a question from Lord Ingestrie, it appears that Lord Palmerston has not yet received any official account of the outrage committed by the French ships of war at the Sandwich Islands. The noble Foreign Secretary declared that these Islands were not under the protection of the English Government, but that "he considered them to be an independent State."—*N. Y. Merc.*

A bill had been brought into Parliament creating Prince Albert, Regent, in case of the demise of the Queen, an event which the Englishmen think there is some special reason to provide for, though they hope they may have a successor to the throne without any such painful consequences. The appointment of Prince Albert gives general satisfaction.

From the New York Journal of Com. FURTHER OF THE CALIFORNIA AFFAIR.

The account which we published in our last, from a Mexican paper, relating to the arrest of 46 Americans in Upper California, and their conveyance in chains to Tepic, near Mazatlan, was first inserted in a San Luis paper, and thence was copied into the *Diario del Gobierno* of the Mexican capital, from which latter paper we made our translation. We however did not translate the whole article, for want of time and room, and it may be sufficient to state that the part which we omitted, is occupied with an attempt to prove an intention on the part of

"the Yankees," to get possession of the territory in question, after the manner of the Texas revolution. In this connexion are introduced the names of Capt. Wm. Hinkley, of the bark *Don Quixote*; John Coffin Jones, late U. S. Consul at the Sandwich Islands; and Capt. Kennedy, of the U. S. ship *Peacock*. The conduct of these gentlemen, all of whom have visited Upper California, is construed in said article as countenancing the idea of a conquest of Upper California being contemplated by the Yankees. Probably it was considered necessary to attempt to make out a case of this kind, in order to justify, even in the eyes of the Mexicans, the flagrant outrage committed upon our citizens by the Governor of that territory. The paper alluded to makes no mention of Englishmen being concerned in the alleged revolutionary project, although it is certain that many of the persons arrested and carried to Tepic, are British subjects. We now present another version of the affair, as communicated by Capt. Clifford, of the American bark *Una*, from Vera Cruz. We have reason to believe that this statement is essentially correct.

On the 7th of April the English and American residents on the coast of California, near Santa Barbara, were, without any previous notice, seized upon and thrown into prison, no one could tell for what cause. After undergoing an examination, of which nothing public was made known, the Governor chartered a vessel called the *Guipuzcoa*, which finally left Santa Barbara, on the 7th May, for San Blas, with forty six prisoners on board, half of which number were English, the remaining half citizens of the United States.

These miserable sufferers, loaded with irons, worn down by the cruelty they had received and expecting, many of them, to sink under the weight of their accumulated miseries, were crowded like condemned felons into the hold of the vessel, where, to add to their sufferings, they were inhumanly deprived both of light and air.

The *Guipuzcoa* was eleven days on her passage to San Blas, during which time the prisoners endured every cruelty, and suffered every abuse which the brutal feelings of their persecutors could invent. Arrived at San Blas they were with as little delay as possible landed, and immediately forced to commence their march to Tepic, a distance of sixty miles, which they performed in two days, over a mountainous road, with the thermometer standing at 90, having no place whereon to rest their weary bodies but the hard stones, and no food to supply exhausted nature, save a scanty morsel, provided by the hand of charity.

During the march, which was laborious enough to exhaust the stoutest frame, the prisoners were urged onward by lashes inflicted upon their naked bodies, and one, who sank under fatigue, was barbarously beaten with the butt end of a musket, to renovate his strength and arouse his drooping spirits.

Arrived at Tepic, the situation of the prisoners was soon meliorated by the energetic and humane exertions of the British and American Consuls at that place, for it was found on investigation, that the officers who had come from California in charge of the prisoners, had no documents of any nature to show the cause of the violent proceedings of the Governor, or any proof of charges against the prisoners; consequently, by orders of the military commander, the irons were taken from their limbs, and by direction of the Consuls comfortable quarters and wholesome food were provided for them without delay.

The military gentlemen, whose brutality had excited the indignation even of the authorities of Tepic, to their utter consternation were compelled to march to the quai, where they found themselves placed under charge of a strong guard, with the privilege of occasionally peeping through the grates.

A circumstantial account of the history of the outrage and the sufferings of the prisoners had been forwarded by the consuls to the British and American ministers resident in Mexico, both of whom had warmly entered into the cause, and had demanded a full explanation from the supreme government, and satisfaction for the injuries which their countrymen had been compelled to suffer.

Official accounts of this infamous transaction have been forwarded to the British and American governments by their respective ministers at the city of Mexico, and it is confidently hoped that prompt and energetic measures will be pursued by those powers to obtain ample justice and remuneration for